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Silvertip's Skull

The heavy-boned skull of a grizzly bear with its massive teeth is, to most hunters, a treasured trophy. It may also offer important management information.

Aside from Alaska, this is the only state where you can walk into a license dealer, put down your money and walk out with a license to hunt grizzly bears. Educated "guesstimates" over a number of years have placed annual kills at from 30 to 60 animals. Requirements for the grizzly hunting and trophy licenses which became effective in 1967 have nailed down the harvest estimate to a more exacting figure, however. During 1967 there were a total of 45 grizzlies known to have been killed — 24 by hunters, four in both Glacier and Yellowstone parks, and the remainder for various reasons including some illegal kills.

The grizzly is described by Lewis and Clark in records of their voyage up the Missouri River during 1805. They called them "white bears" and found the big brutes far out on eastern Montana prairies. The prairie grizzlies apparently grew big, reportedly often 1,000 pounds, and both the Indians and the whites rightfully feared them. The old mountain men who faced them with black powder and muzzle loaders were certainly tempting fate. Even with the high powered, rapid fire rifles of today there's an element of risk in hunting grizzlies. Our mountain grizzlies of today seldom exceed 500 pounds though there is an occasional heavyweight that goes well over this. But they're still pugnacious and unpredictable. Savage maulings of national parks visitors haven't improved their image.

The grizzly has been stripped of his once-extensive range and is now squeezed into a tight corner. Were it not for national parks and established wilderness areas there possibly wouldn't be any grizzlies in the contiguous 48 states. They're slow producers. Females will begin to mate about their fourth year and then irregularly only once every two or three years. The young are born during late winter months when their mothers are in hibernation. Cubs will stay with mothers until they are two to three years old, and family groups can often be seen traveling and feeding together.

There's a lot to be known about our grizzlies, and good information becomes more critical each year. A certain amount of information came from hunters who

GRIZZLIES TAKEN BY HUNTERS DURING THE 1967 SEASON

	Date	Hunting Area No.	Location	Sex	Hide Length Ft.-In.	Hide Width Ft.-In.	Rear Foot Length & W.	
1	Oct. 22	11	N. Fork Flathead Riv.	M	4- 7	5- 4	6	4
2	Nov. 9	11	N. Fork Flathead Riv.	M	7- 5	7- 7	11	6
3	Oct. 28	14	Long Creek	M	6- 6	6- 6	7½	5
4	Oct. 29	14	Hungry Horse	M	6- 6	5- 6	9	5
5	Nov. 8	14	Baptise Brush Creek	F	4- 0	4- 8	3½	4
6	Sept. 27	15	Upper Slick Creek	F	5-10	5-10	5½	4
7	Sept. 22	15	Albino Basin	M	5- 0	5- 3	6	3
8	Oct. 18	15	Bob Marshall Wild. Area	M	6- 0	6- 8	....	....
9	Oct. 24	15	Bob Marshall Wild. Area	M	....	....	....	....
10	Oct. 14	15	Basin Creek Drainage	M	6- 0	7- 0	10	6
11	Oct. 17	15	Little Salmon	F	5- 9	5- 6	....	
12	Oct. 4	15	Big Salmon River	M	5- 6	6- 0	7	5
13	Oct. 28	101	Eureka	M	5- 2	6- 0	6	4
14	Oct. 6	131	High Park Basin	M	4- 9	4- 3	7½	5
15	Oct. 8	131	High Park Basin	M	7- 0	7- 6	10½	5
16	Nov. 13	28	McCabe Creek	F	6- 2	6-10	7	4
17	Sept. 17	280	Dobrodin Creek	M	....	....	....	....
18	Sept. 16	280	Olson Peak	F	5- 9	5- 6	5	3
19	Nov. 7	280	Sheep and Landers Creek	M	7- 7	7- 8	10	6
20	Oct. 30	281	N. Fk. Blackfoot River	M	6- 0	4- 6	7	5
21	Sept. 15	316	N. of Cook City	F	5- 6	....	10	7
22	Sept. 20	316	Slough Creek Basin	F	6- 0	6- 0	8	5
23	Nov. 9	42	Weasel Creek	F	5- 8	6- 3	8	5
24	Nov. 11	42	Mountimar Gulch	....	7- 0	6- 6	9	6

HUNTER-KILLED GRIZZLIES DURING 1967 HUNTING SEASON

101 **Hunting District (1967).**

24 **Grizzlies taken by hunters in respective districts.**

△ **Grizzlies taken by other than hunters in 1967.**

8 **Grizzlies taken in National Parks.**

applied for trophy licenses last year. The application form called for measurements on the hide and rear foot. Largest of hides came off a bear taken November 9 in the North Fork of the Flathead. It measured 7 feet, 5 incres long by 7 feet 7 inches wide. The rear foot of this big brusier measured 11 inches long and 6 inches wide. This was also the largest foot measurement turned in.

While the hide and foot measurements offer a certain amount of information about these bears, there are pitfalls. It's recognized that a hide shrinks considerably once taken off the carcass, and even measurements of a hind foot will vary if specific delineations are not followed. The program to get more and better information will be beefed up this year.

One important part of the program will be a plea for hunters to bring in skulls of their trophies. As an incentive, the fish and game laboratory will clean the skulls and eventually return them to the trophy owners. Collection of skulls is very important, and several have been gathered already. With research work presently underway, game workers will be able to tell the age, within limits, of the grizzlies by their skulls. Research on sectioning of teeth for revealing age is also showing promising results.

At this time, then, the skulls of bears promise to be an important item to future management of grizzlies. Hunters who take a grizzly are asked to contact the Montana Fish and Game Research Laboratory, Montana State University, Bozeman. Preferably, as much flesh as possible should be removed from the skull at the time of skinning. It should be wrapped in heavy paper or put in a plastic bag and frozen. Hunters who have kept the large-toothed, thick-boned skulls find them prized possessions that bring back memories of the thrill of the hunt.

MONTANA OUTDOORS

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FATE OF THE WILD MISSOURI-OR-
PORK BARREL, PIGS, AND PEAS

By Jim Pozewitz

Will the last of the free-flowing Missouri and the rights of Montana to its water fall victim to a shell game?

One of the precepts of the federal system is that projects constructed by the federal government originate with the local people. This is certainly commendable and basic to democratic government. With this in mind it is interesting to note where and how some Montanans are coming up with the idea that we need High Cow Creek Dam. Some of their thoughts on this matter appear to originate in a large airplane that the Corps of Engineers sends into Montana, possibly at your and my expense. This plane is subsequently filled with people genuinely concerned with Montana's development and heads east to view accomplishments of the corps elsewhere. For some reason the fruits of cheap electrical power and water stored for beneficial uses like irrigation cannot be viewed at Fort Peck, the oldest of Missouri River corps projects.

While on this trip Montanans are given what appears to be two different types of information. One type, the official corps publication, explains exactly what the corps is proposing to do. The other type is mimeographed undated material and cannot be identified as to authorship. The mimeographed material in contrast to corps publications discusses the real problems concerning Montana and hints at their solution. It can quite easly lead a concerned person into believing that a favored project like High Cow Creek Dam will solve a Montana problem.

Perhaps the best example of this tactic can be illustrated by the reference to irrigation contained in both types of material. The identifiable, corps publication reads, "reduced pumping heads **might** be a major factor in economic feasibility of irrigation developments at some **future** time." The mimeographed sheet treats the same topic this way, "Modified Plan 4 **would** provide a feasible method of diverting water from High Cow Creek Reservoir near Big Sandy. . . . A comparison of the two statements is enough to make a person wonder if there really is a pig in that poke.

Why not ask for an official plan for development that actually contains all the things hinted at before we sell our river to the dam builders Why not consider a project that includes irrigation diversions and developments in fact, includes a power reserve in fact, includes guaranteed water levels and recreation facilities in fact, and guarantees adequate wildlife mitigation in fact? Why Not? We cannot consider such a proposal now because no one is making such a proposal. The project proposed in the Corps of Engineers

report titled "Report on Development of the Upper Missouri River, May 1964" contains the following evaluated tangible benefits, power production, replacement flood control storage for Garrison Reservoir in North Dakota, and recreation.

The $375,000.00 annual replacement flood control benefit credited to High Cow Creek Dam should interest Montana irrigators. It appears that this benefit comes from replacing flood control storage in a downstream reservoir. Such replaced downstream flood control storage certainly could make room for more storage of irrigation water in North Dakota. Wouldn't it be a Montana tragedy if we lost both our free flowing river and our right to use water originating in Montana?

The Fish and Game Department does not have a big airplane, and wouldn't have enough money to fly it if we did. All we have is a firm conviction that the last of the Missouri River is an asset to Montana and will be a greater asset in the future. Our nation already has over 700 miles of reservoir on what was once the Missouri River. Montana already has over 200 miles of Missouri River Reservoirs. Only Montana has a large free flowing section of Missouri River, the last of it. Is this unique asset worth the thirty pieces of construction silver Montana now stands to gain? If we must sell out why not do it for a project that **guarantees** the benefits now hinted at? With some guarantees maybe there will be a pea under the shell when we pick it up.

Mountain Grouse hunting, 1968- MONTANA

BLUE GROUSE, RUFFED GROUSE & SPRUCE (FRANKLIN'S) GROUSE

Open season from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset on days listed below in the areas indicated as open on the accompanying map. The remainder of the state will be closed to blue, ruffed and Franklin's grouse hunting, including State Game Preserves and closures, National Parks and Flathead Indian Reservation. For hunting privileges on other Indian Reservations, inquire at the local Indian Agency.

1968
OPEN SEASON

Open Season from Sept. 8 through Dec. 1

Open Season from Sept. 15 through Dec. 1

Daily Limit: Five (5) per person in combination or single species.

Possession Limit: After opening day, the possession limit will be ten (10)

Means of Taking: Blue, ruffed and Franklin's grouse may be taken with a shotgun no larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow, rifle or hand gun.

(FIELD DRESSED BIRDS SHOULD HAVE ONE WING ATTACHED TO CARCASS FOR IDENTIFICATION AND AGING)

DO'S AND DONT'S OF HUNTING

Hunters taking to the woods this fall may well profit by reviewing a checklist of hunting do's and don'ts. Many of the game law violations each year occur because people just don't take time to review hunting regulations.

Following is a rundown on some of the most common questions that hunters ask.

Who Needs Licenses?

All persons must have licenses to hunt any species of big game. Children under 12 years old cannot legally buy licenses nor hunt game animals or game birds. Resident children 12 through 14 years old may purchase bird, deer, and elk licenses at one-half the regular license fees.

Resident citizens of Montana who are 65 years old or older need not have a license to hunt game birds in Montana, but this does not exempt them from tag and stamp fees. They are required to purchase a turkey tag in order to hunt wild turkeys, and they must purchase a federal "duck stamp" in order to legally hunt waterfowl.

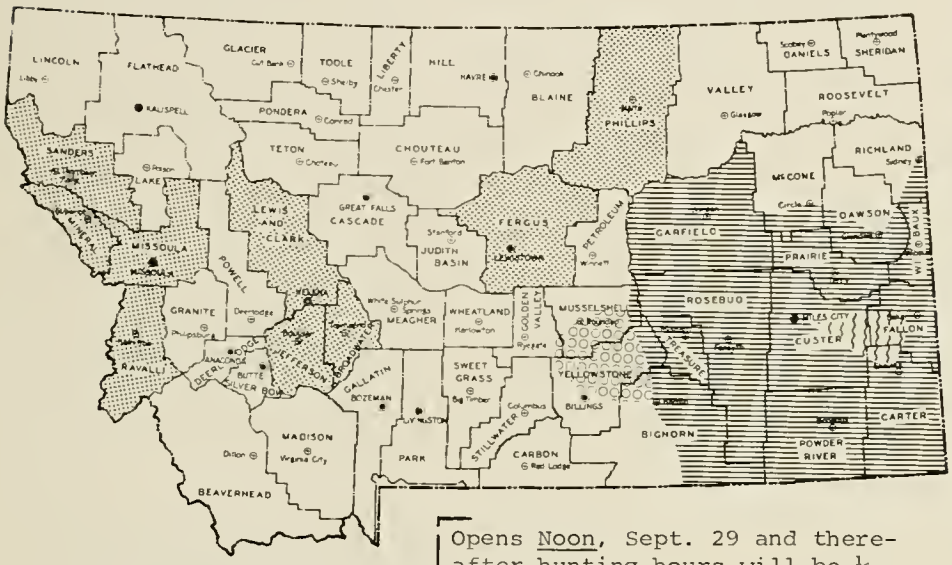
Persons who are not yet 16 years old are not required to have the "duck stamp" in order to hunt migratory birds, but they are required to have a state bird hunting license.

Who Can Buy Resident Licenses?

The fact that a person owns land in Montana does not necessarily make him a resident. Everyone has, in law, a residence. Per-

Turkey hunting season, 1968-MONTANA

MERRIAM'S WILD TURKEY, 1968 - Except for the noon opening in some areas as indicated on the map, hunting hours will be one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset to holders of special wild turkey tags. Hunting will be open on days listed below in the areas indicated as open on the accompanying map. The remainder of the state will be closed to wild turkey hunting including State Game Preserves and closures, Hell Creek State Park, and National Parks. For hunting privileges on Indian Reservations, inquire at the local Indian agency.



Open season - Opens Noon, Sept. 29 and thereafter hunting hours will be ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset through Oct. 6.

Open season - Oct. 27 (½ hr. before sunrise) through Nov. 10

Open season - Sept. 29 (½ hr. before sunrise) through Nov. 3

Open season - Oct. 27 (½ hr. before sunrise) through Nov. 24

Means of Taking: Wild turkey may be taken with a shotgun no larger than ten gauge, long bow and arrow, rifle or hand gun. Baiting prohibited

Tagging: The tag provided with the special game license must be filled out and affixed to the leg of the turkey immediately after killing and must remain thereon. A hunter may legally take only one turkey during the fall hunt.

sons can be legal residents of only one state at a time, and one residence cannot be lost until another is gained. A residence is the place where one remains when not called elsewhere for labor, or other special or temporary purpose, and to which he returns in seasons of repose.

With but two exceptions, a person must be a citizen of the United States and also a resident of Montana for a period of at least six months immediately prior to making application for Montana hunting or fishing licenses.

One exception provides that members of the armed forces assigned to duty in Montana and members of their immediate families may purchase resident hunting and fishing licenses after a period of 30 days within Montana and upon presentation of orders from the proper unit commander.

The second exception provides that Montana Job Corps enrolees, after 30 days within the state, may get resident **fishing** licenses so long as they remain enrollees in a Montana camp. This does **not** apply to employees of the Job Corps.

Minors fall into some special cases. The residence of a father during his life, and after his death the residence of the mother, while she remains unmarried, is the residence of the unmarried minor child. This means that a single minor (boy under 21 and girl under 18) cannot buy a resident hunting or fishing license unless his parent or guardian has established residence in Montana for a period of six months. This does not apply to married minors, however.

A married minor who has been a resident of the state for the period of six months immediately prior to making application for a license, may purchase resident hunting and fishing licenses.

What Weapon Can I Use?

There are no restrictions on caliber of firearms which may be used for big game hunting in Montana, but if a shotgun is used for deer hunting, then the load must be 0 buck, 00 buck, or single ball. During special archery seasons, crossbows may not be used for big game hunting. However, during the firearms season, and in districts which are open to gun hunting a crossbow may be used for big game hunting.

Mountain grouse and wild turkeys may be hunted with shotguns no larger than ten gauge, long bow and arrow (not crossbows) rifle or hand gun. Other game birds, including waterfowl, can be hunted only with a shotgun no larger than ten gauge, or long bow and arrow.

Can I Shoot From a Car?

It is illegal to shoot on, from, or across any public highway. It is also unlawful to shoot game animals or birds from any self-propelled vehicle. This, of course, includes automobiles, snowmobiles, motorcycles, and motor boats.

Federal regulations will allow waterfowl hunters to shoot from boats with motors attached beginning this year. The motors will have to be turned off, however.

Previously, regulations prohibited shooting from a boat if the motor was attached. Hunters may now shoot from a motorboat, or sailboat, provided the motor is turned off, the sail furled, and forward motion as a result of motor or sail has ceased.

Waterfowl hunters will be allowed to use motors for recovering wounded birds.

Can I Wear Camoflauge?

All big game hunters are required to wear an exterior garment, cap, hat, shirt, jacket, coat or sweater of a **bright** orange, yellow or red. This includes bowhunters who are hunting big game.

Can I Haul My Animal Out Before Tagging It?

Montana law requires that big game animals be tagged IMMEDIATELY after the kill. Directions as to how the tags should be completed are printed on the tags or licenses. The tagging law will be strictly enforced, and animals which are not tagged, or are improperly tagged will be confiscated.

ONE-TIME DEPARTMENT HEAD GONE

By William Maloit

The sun fades slowly and colorfully in the west, and the bugle notes of "taps" echo from Camel's Hump to the bluffs of the Yellowstone. Another day is done, another "old timer" is gone. Let's pause and travel back to another era, swirling dust, sweating horses, the thunder of hooves as mounted troopers of the United States Cavalry at Fort Keogh, Miles City, Montana, pass in review.

An obituary notice appearing in the Miles City Star interested me in obtaining background information on a former soldier, resident, and Fish and Game employee who aided in early conservation work.

J. H. (Harry) Chartrand, 87, died Thursday, February 22, 1968 at Vista, California. He was born in 1880 at McPherson, Kansas. He resided there and attended schools until enlisting in the United States Cavalry and served in the Spanish-American War. He served in the Phillippines and remained in the service and came to Miles City, Montana, Fort Keogh, with the 6th United States Cavalry in 1901. "M" Troop, 6th, was considered the finest cavalry unit in the United States for performances in horsemanship and trick riding. Sergeant Chartrand was a model soldier, fine athlete and played on the post football and baseball teams.

In 1905 he was discharged from the army and went to work for the Shore-Newcom Company at Miles City. He married Miss Bertha Turner of Miles City in 1905. He remained in the employment of the Shore-Newcom Company until 1914 when war clouds gathered over Europe. He re-enlisted in the army and served in the field artillery. During this tour of duty he was with the American Expeditionary Forces and served in France participating in several major engagements. He was commissioned and was discharged as a captain in 1919.

Upon his return to Miles City, he entered a partnership and established the University Grocery Company on Leighton Boulevard in Miles City.

Harry was an avid sportsman and loved to be outdoors and to hunt and fish. His enthusiasm for the outdoors and the declining wildlife populations prompted him to accept the appointment as deptuy fish and game warden at Miles City.

During this period the first Hungarian partridges were introduced in Montana. These birds were live-trapped by farmers in Hungary, transported by train to the sea coast and shipped by boat to the United States. They were then placed on trains at New York finally arriving at Baker and Miles City where they were liberated by Warden Chartrand. The sportsmen today can thank these early efforts at conservation and management for the fine sport of "hun" hunting.

In 1926 the State Fish Culture

Harry Chartrand, standing left, and other members of the 6th Cavalry display uniforms which were getting a new look at that time—1905.

Station was established at Miles City and in addition to his duties as game warden, Harry was assigned as the first manager of the hatchery located on Fort Keogh property at Miles City. An old ox bow of the Yellowstone was dammed and ponds created in 1928. This body of water was named Garberson Lake after Dr. Garberson, an early conservationist and sportsman active in establishing the Custer Rod and Gun Club, the Southeastern Montana Sportsman Club and the Montana Wildlife Federation.

The first buildings were constructed in 1928 and additions were made in 1934 under the Works Progress Administration. This installation was abandoned in 1958 when the new national fish hatchery was constructed at Camel's Hump west of Miles City on the old Fort Keogh property, now the U.S. Range Livestock Experiment Station.

From 1932 to 1936 Chartrand was chief deputy of the Fish and Game Department and resided in Helena, Montana. After 14 years of service with the Fish and Game Department, he left the department and moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado. After retirement he moved to Vista, California where he and his wife resided.

Casey Barthelmess of Miles City provided photographs of "M" Troop 6th Cavalry. The photographs were taken by Christian Barthelmess, Casey's father, who was post photographer at Fort Keogh and had served an enlistment with the 6th Cavalry during his army career. Casey grew up on the post and knew Harry Chartrand as a soldier and civilian.

THE ANTELOPE PICTURE IN SOUTHEASTERN MONTANA

By H. O. Compton

Southeastern Montana is known for its excellent antelope hunting. The number of antelope found there and the open, easily-traversed terrain have made antelope hunting an enjoyable and successful venture for great numbers of resident and nonresident hunters. The hunting season of 1964 was the peak in antelope harvest and hunter success. A total of 18,175 licenses were permitted and 15,460 hunters killed 12,243 antelope for a success of 80 per cent. This total represented one-half of the antelope killed in the state of Montana during 1964.

Following the big season of 1964, it was found that antelope populations had decreased by about 40 per cent. Consequently, the license quotas were reduced considerably during the following three years. In 1967 the quota was 7,850 and 7,160 hunters killed 4,980 antelope for a success of 70 per cent. What happened to the antelope population between the summers of 1964 and 1965? Did we over-harvest in 1964? What is the story now? A review of available information helps clarify the picture.

Antelope populations had been increasing steadily since the late 1930's with periodic fluctuations which didn't appear to be related to hunting. By the early 1960's the number of antelope in southeastern Montana had reached the point where they were becoming an agricultural nuisance. In an attempt to stabilize the population, license quotas were increased greatly.

The winter of 1964-65 was unusually severe in eastern Montana. From November of 1964 through April, 1965, 50 inches of snow fell in southeastern Montana. This was twice the normal snowfall for that period. Temperatures averaged 16 degrees below normal in December and 14 degrees below normal in March. Normal winter antelope concentrations and movements were influenced. Groups of up to a thousand were observed moving for long distances. They were probably seeking forage or shelter or both. Very little antelope mortality was obvious, either during the winter or during the following year. However, herd locations had changed the following summer and numbers of antelope were greatly reduced.

Figure 1 shows fawns per 100 does (production) since 1960. Figure 2 demonstrates percent fawns in the population for the same period. A very definite trend in fawn production is apparent in both tables. From a high production situation in the very early 1960's, the fawn segment of the herd began to gradually but steadily decrease to a low in 1965.

What conclusions can be drawn from the preceding information? There were obviously too many antelope in southeastern Montana in the late 1950's. Hunting pressure had been increased to the saturation point. The number of antelope killed each year was not sufficient to regulate the herd. Hunters were harvesting 25 per cent of the herd that was increasing at the rate of 35 per cent. Consequently, antelope herd numbers went beyond their range carrying capacity. When this happens, self-regulatory mechanisms take over, one of the most obvious being a decrease in fawn production. The graphs demonstrate that this happened. The winter of 1964-65 came

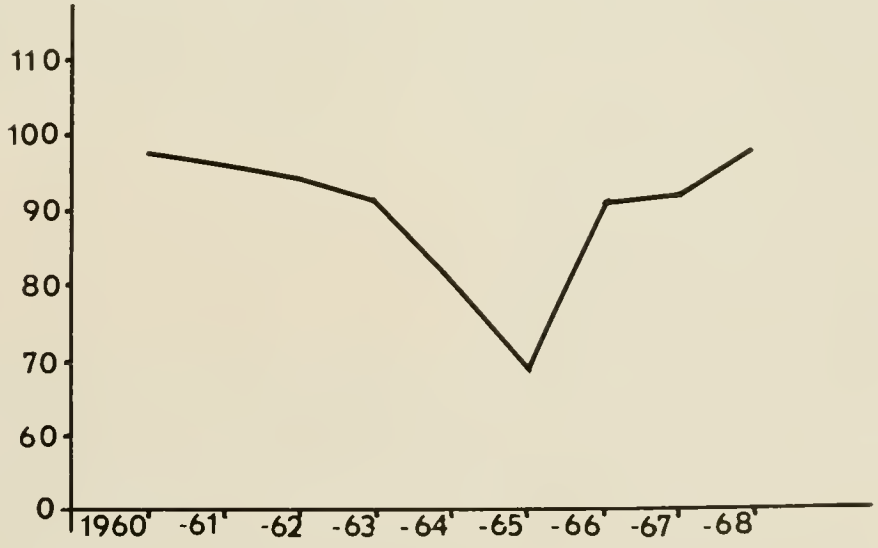


Figure 1 Antelope production shown in terms of fawns per 100 does.

at a time when the herd was already decreasing but still high enough to be affected. The severe winter accelerated the downward trend of the herd by direct mortality and suppression of fawn production the following year, 1965. Very likely the effect of the winter would not have been as pronounced if herd numbers had been in a more balanced condition.

What is the status at present? What can be expected in the future? Density of antelope and fawn production are increasing. Production of fawns averaged 99 fawns per 100 does in 1968. This is the highest ratio since 1954. Although an increase in total antelope numbers is less obvious initially than fawn production, this became apparent also in 1968. Because antelope populations can build rapidly under optimum conditions and a boom and bust situation every few years is not desirable, management is attempting to allow for a slow herd increase to a point somewhere below the 1964 level. A constant high level of fawn production from year to year is a good indication of a healthy herd.

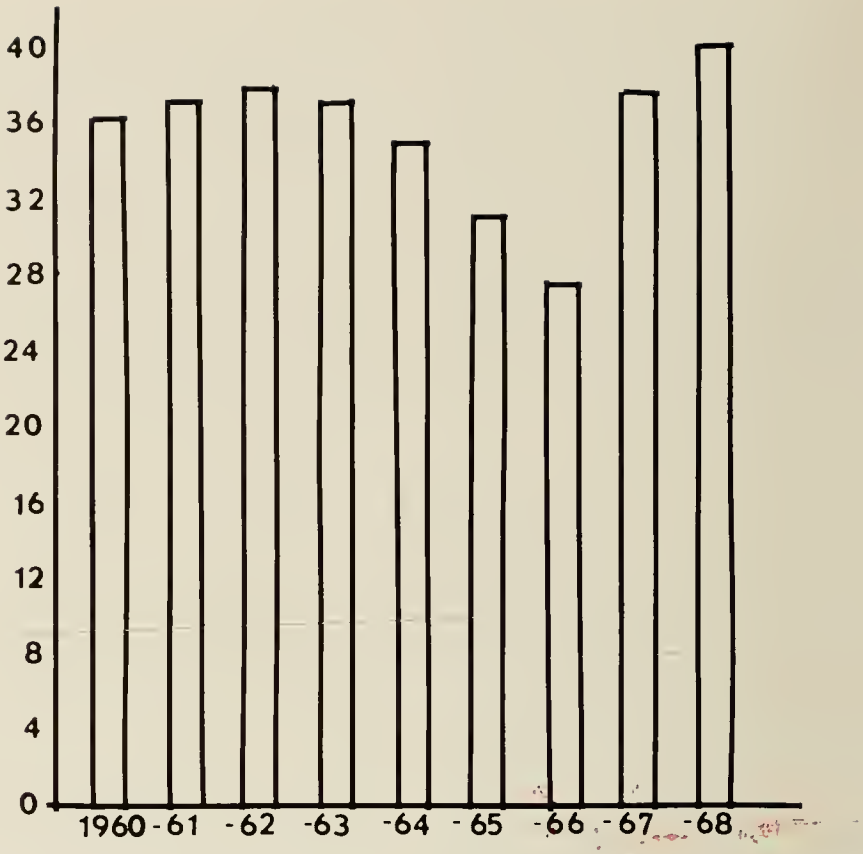


Figure 2 Percent of antelope fawns, determined during summer surveys.

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